

Claims

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1. A system for managing patent application data via the Internet, comprising:
a matter module, the matter module operable to manage data relating to patent matters, the managed data comprising docketing data;
5 a tasks module, the tasks module operable to manage tasks related to each matter managed by the matter module, the tasks comprising docketing tasks; and
a security module, the security module operable to restrict access to task and matter data management to selected system users.

10 2. The system of claim 1, wherein managing data relating to patent matters comprises creating new patent matter data.

15 3. The system of claim 1, wherein managing data relating to patent matters comprises retrieving patent matter data.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein managing data relating to patent matters comprises editing patent matter data.

20 5. The system of claim 1, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises automated creation of tasks.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters

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comprises user creation of tasks.

7. The system of claim 1, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises retrieving tasks for a particular matter.

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8. The system of claim 1, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises retrieving tasks for a particular user.

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9. The system of claim 1, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises retrieving tasks for a particular organization.

10. The system of claim 1, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises editing tasks.

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11. The system of claim 1, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises viewing a calendar of tasks.

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12. The system of claim 1, wherein the security module requires a user to log in before granting access to matter or task data, and wherein the security module further grants the logged in user access only to those matters and tasks to which the user has been granted access.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein users are granted access to matters and tasks by the creator of each matter or task.

14. The system of claim 1, further comprising a messaging module operable to
5 provide messaging to users of the system.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the messaging comprises automated messages to particular users, the messages relating to matters and tasks associated with the particular users.

10 16. The system of claim 14, wherein the messaging comprises a user sending messages to other users.

17. The system of claim 14, wherein the messaging module is further operable to send
15 electronic mail (e-mail) to users, the e-mail comprising information relating to the user's role in managed tasks and matters.

18. The system of claim 1, wherein the system comprises a World-Wide Web site (Internet web site).

20 19. The system of claim 18, wherein the web site comprises application server pages.

20. The system of claim 18, wherein the web site comprises Java server pages.

21. The system of claim 18, wherein the system further comprises a database for managing patent application data.

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22. The system of claim 21, wherein the system comprises multiple databases and is able to exchange data between the multiple databases.

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23. The system of claim 22, the system further operable to synchronize data in the databases by publishing changes to one database to other associated databases within the system.

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24. The system of claim 1, wherein multiple matters may be associated with each other, such that data relating to one of the multiple matters will be visible when viewing data relating to another of the multiple matters.

25. A machine-readable medium with instructions stored thereon, the instructions when executed operable to cause a computerized system to manage patent application data via the Internet by:

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managing data relating to patent matters via a matter module, the managed data comprising docketing data;

managing tasks related to each matter managed by the matter module via a task

module, the tasks comprising docketing tasks; and

restricting access to task and matter data management to selected system users via a security module.

5 26. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein managing data relating to patent matters comprises creating new patent matter data.

27. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein managing data relating to patent matters comprises retrieving patent matter data.

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28. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein managing data relating to patent matters comprises editing patent matter data.

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29. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises automated creation of tasks.

30. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises user creation of tasks.

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31. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises retrieving tasks for a particular matter.

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32. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises retrieving tasks for a particular user.

5 33. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises retrieving tasks for a particular organization.

34. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises editing tasks.

10 35. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises viewing a calendar of tasks.

15 36. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein the security module requires a user to log in before granting access to matter or task data, and wherein the security module further grants the logged in user access only to those matters and tasks to which the user has been granted access.

37. The machine-readable medium of claim 36, wherein users are granted access to matters and tasks by the creator of each matter or task.

20 38. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, further comprising a messaging module operable to provide messaging to users of the system.

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39. The machine-readable medium of claim 38, wherein the messaging comprises automated messages to particular users, the messages relating to matters and tasks associated with the particular users.
- 5 40. The machine-readable medium of claim 38, wherein the messaging comprises a user sending messages to other users.
41. The machine-readable medium of claim 38, wherein the messaging module is further operable to send electronic mail (e-mail) to users, the e-mail comprising
- 10 information relating to the user's role in managed tasks and matters.
42. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein the system comprises a World-Wide Web site (Internet web site).
- 15 43. The machine-readable medium of claim 42, wherein the web site comprises application server pages.
44. The machine-readable medium of claim 42, wherein the web site comprises Java server pages.
- 20 45. The machine-readable medium of claim 42, wherein the system further comprises a database for managing patent application data.

46. The machine-readable medium of claim 45, wherein the system comprises multiple databases and is able to exchange data between the multiple databases.

47. The machine-readable medium of claim 46, the instructions further operable to
5 synchronize data in the databases by publishing changes to one database to other associated databases within the system.

48. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein multiple matters may be associated with each other, such that data relating to one of the multiple matters will
10 be visible when viewing data relating to another of the multiple matters.

49. A system for managing trademark application data via the Internet, comprising:

15 a matter module, the matter module operable to manage data relating to trademark matters, the managed data comprising docketing data;

a tasks module, the tasks module operable to manage tasks related to each matter managed by the matter module, the tasks comprising docketing tasks; and

a security module, the security module operable to restrict access to task and matter data management to selected system users.

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50. The system of claim 49, wherein managing data relating to trademark matters comprises creating new trademark matter data.

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51. The system of claim 49, wherein managing data relating to trademark matters comprises retrieving trademark matter data.
52. The system of claim 49, wherein managing data relating to trademark matters
5 comprises editing trademark matter data.
53. The system of claim 49, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises automated creation of tasks.
- 10 54. The system of claim 49, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises user creation of tasks.
55. The system of claim 49, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises retrieving tasks for a particular matter.
- 15 56. The system of claim 49, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises retrieving tasks for a particular user.
57. The system of claim 49, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters
20 comprises retrieving tasks for a particular organization.
58. The system of claim 49, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters

comprises editing tasks.

59. The system of claim 49, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises viewing a calendar of tasks.

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60. The system of claim 49, wherein the security module requires a user to log in before granting access to matter or task data, and wherein the security module further grants the logged in user access only to those matters and tasks to which the user has been granted access.

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61. The system of claim 60, wherein users are granted access to matters and tasks by the creator of each matter or task.

62. The system of claim 49, further comprising a messaging module operable to provide messaging to users of the system.

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63. The system of claim 62, wherein the messaging comprises automated messages to particular users, the messages relating to matters and tasks associated with the particular users.

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64. The system of claim 62, wherein the messaging comprises a user sending messages to other users.

65. The system of claim 62, wherein the messaging module is further operable to send electronic mail (e-mail) to users, the e-mail comprising information relating to the user's role in managed tasks and matters.

5 66. The system of claim 49, wherein the system comprises a World-Wide Web site (Internet web site).

67. The system of claim 66, wherein the web site comprises application server pages.

10 68. The system of claim 66, wherein the web site comprises Java server pages.

69. The system of claim 66, wherein the system further comprises a database for managing trademark application data.

15 70. The system of claim 69, wherein the system comprises multiple databases and is able to exchange data between the multiple databases.

20 71. The system of claim 70, the system further operable to synchronize data in the databases by publishing changes to one database to other associated databases within the system.

72. The system of claim 49, wherein multiple matters may be associated with each

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- 77. The machine-readable medium of claim 73, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises automated creation of tasks.
- 5 78. The machine-readable medium of claim 73, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises user creation of tasks.
- 79. The machine-readable medium of claim 73, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises retrieving tasks for a particular matter.
- 10 80. The machine-readable medium of claim 73, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises retrieving tasks for a particular user.
- 81. The machine-readable medium of claim 73, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises retrieving tasks for a particular organization.
- 15 82. The machine-readable medium of claim 73, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises editing tasks.
- 83. The machine-readable medium of claim 73, wherein managing tasks related to managed matters comprises viewing a calendar of tasks.
- 20 84. The machine-readable medium of claim 73, wherein the security module requires

a user to log in before granting access to matter or task data, and wherein the security module further grants the logged in user access only to those matters and tasks to which the user has been granted access.

5 85. The machine-readable medium of claim 84, wherein users are granted access to matters and tasks by the creator of each matter or task.

86. The machine-readable medium of claim 73, further comprising a messaging module operable to provide messaging to users of the system.

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87. The machine-readable medium of claim 86, wherein the messaging comprises automated messages to particular users, the messages relating to matters and tasks associated with the particular users.

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88. The machine-readable medium of claim 86, wherein the messaging comprises a user sending messages to other users.

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89. The machine-readable medium of claim 86, wherein the messaging module is further operable to send electronic mail (e-mail) to users, the e-mail comprising information relating to the user's role in managed tasks and matters.

90. The machine-readable medium of claim 73, wherein the system comprises a

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World-Wide Web site (Internet web site).

91. The machine-readable medium of claim 90, wherein the web site comprises application server pages.

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92. The machine-readable medium of claim 90, wherein the web site comprises Java server pages.

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93. The machine-readable medium of claim 90, wherein the system further comprises a database for managing trademark application data.

94. The machine-readable medium of claim 93, wherein the system comprises multiple databases and is able to exchange data between the multiple databases.

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95. The machine-readable medium of claim 94, the instructions further operable to synchronize data in the databases by publishing changes to one database to other associated databases within the system.

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96. The machine-readable medium of claim 73, wherein multiple matters may be associated with each other, such that data relating to one of the multiple matters will be visible when viewing data relating to another of the multiple matters.